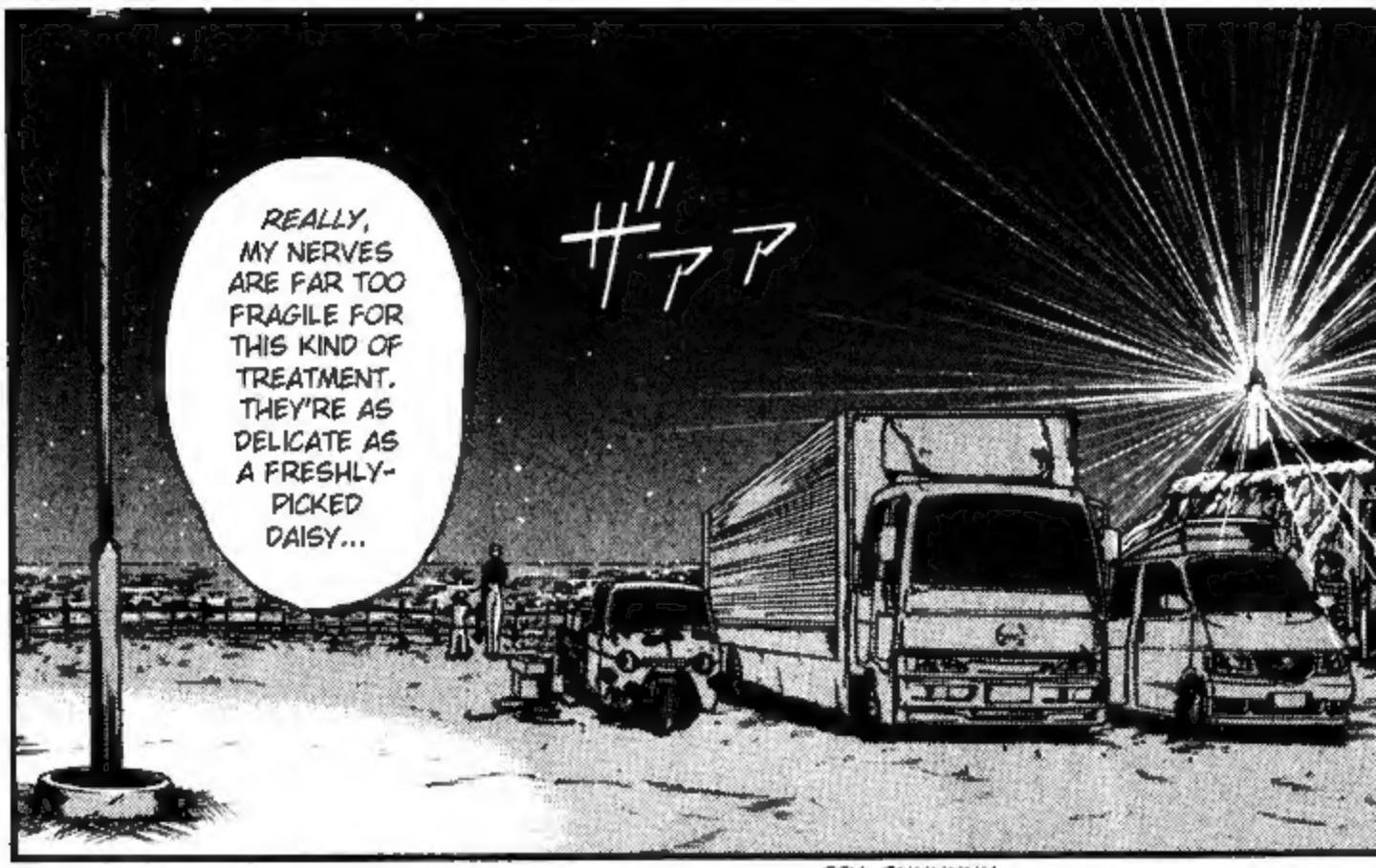
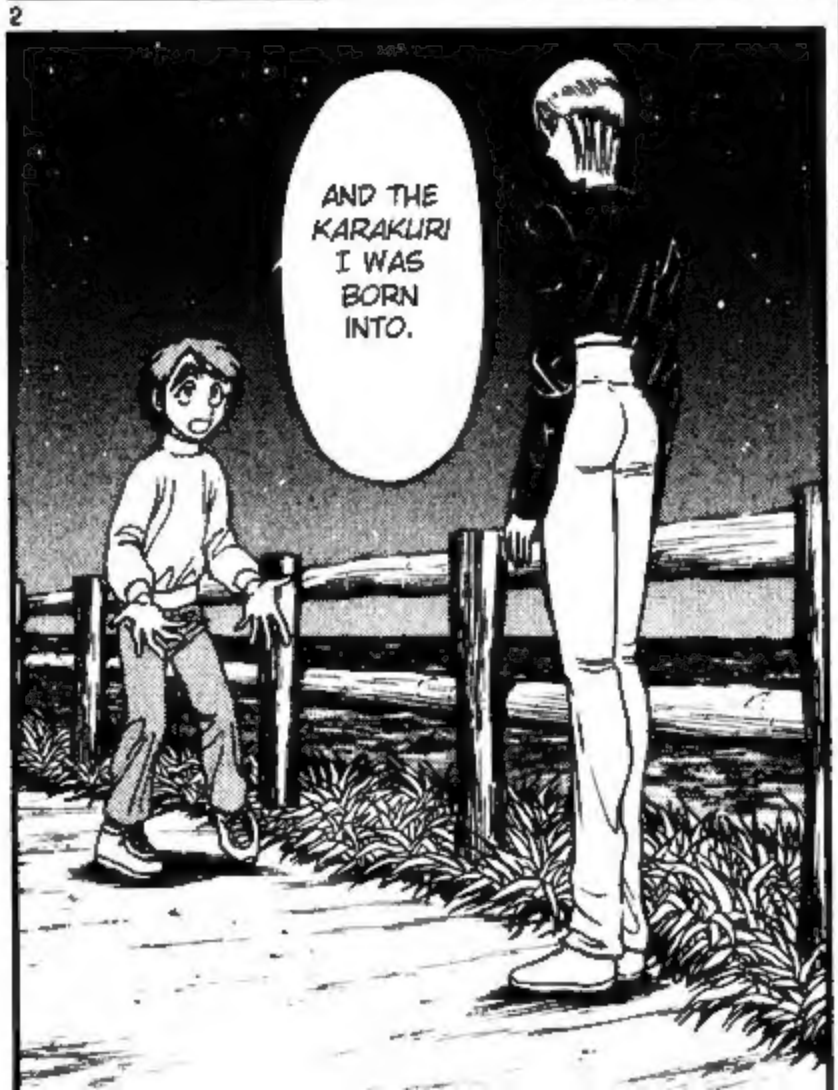
Circus~Final Act
Act 1
Opening Bell


#11 アア
REALLY, MY NERVES ARE FAR TOO FRAGILE FOR THIS KIND OF TREATMENT. THEY'RE AS DELICATE AS A FRESHLY-PICKED DAISY...

THE TRUTH ABOUT MYSELF.
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO LEARN...

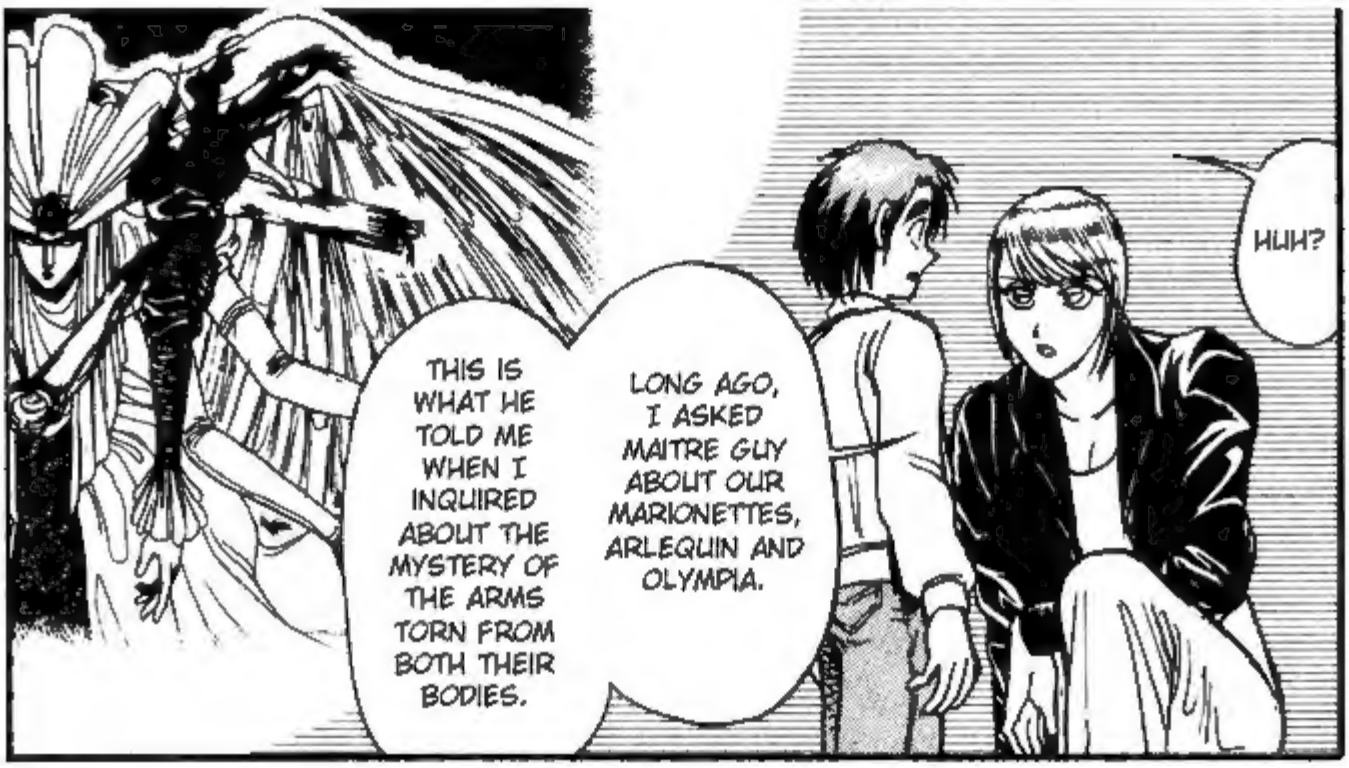
SFX: SNNNNNK
SIGH ...

2


AND THE KARAKURI I WAS BORN INTO.

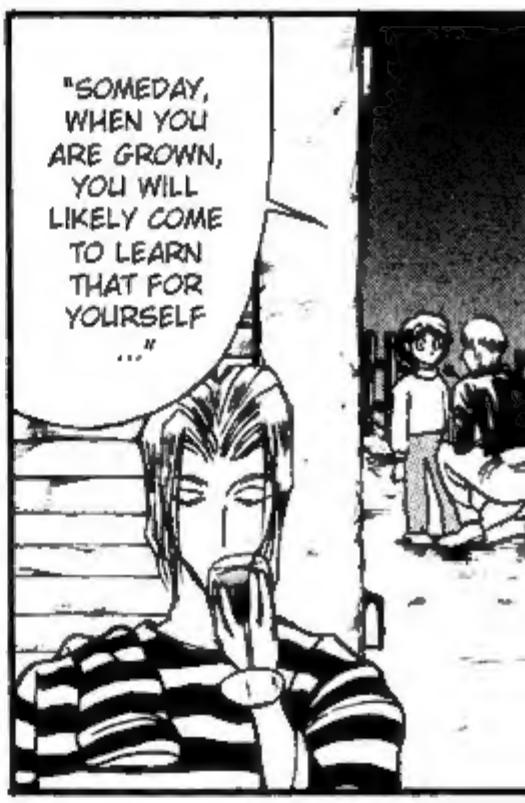
BUT... I REALLY LOVE EVERYONE ...
IN THE NAKA-MACHI CIRCUS.
YOU'VE GIVEN THIS A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT, THEN...
I'VE EVEN STARTED TO DREAM OF BEING PART OF THE CIRCUS WITH THEM.
I STARTED OUT THINKING THEY WERE SCARY, EVERY TIME, BUT THEY AREN'T AT ALL.

WAIT FOR A SIGN ...
AND... THAT'D BE SO HARD TO DO ...
I'M SURE I'LL HAVE TO SAY GOODBYE TO THEM.
BUT IF I WANT TO LEARN THE SECRETS OF MY OWN EX-ISTENCE ...


HUH?
LONG AGO, I ASKED MAITRE GUY ABOUT OUR MARIONETTES, ARLEQUIN AND OLYMPIA.
THIS IS WHAT HE TOLD ME WHEN I INQUIRED ABOUT THE MYSTERY OF THE ARMS TORN FROM BOTH THEIR BODIES.

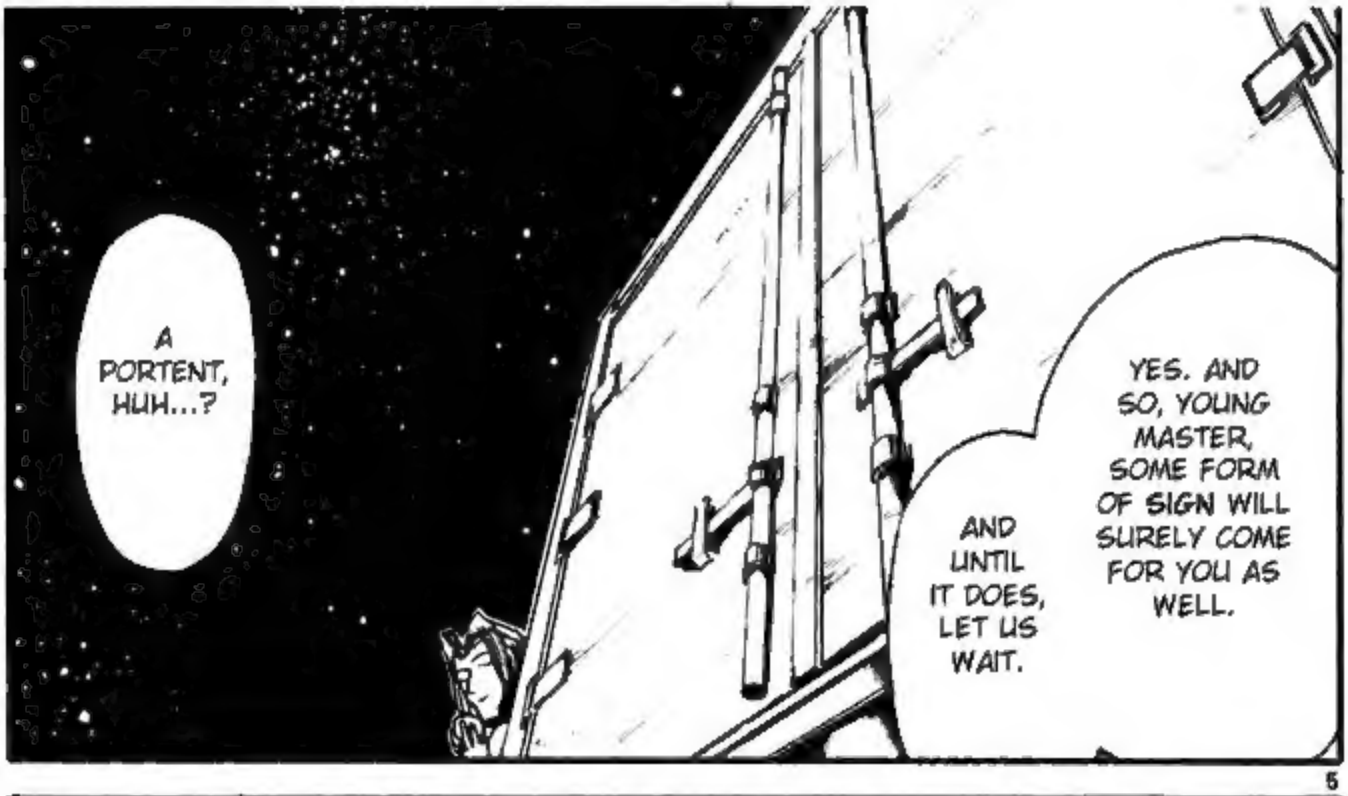
A PORTENT THAT WILL ALERT YOU BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS.
THERE WILL BE A SIGN ...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "WHEN I AM GROWN" ...?


"SOMEDAY, WHEN YOU ARE GROWN, YOU WILL LIKELY COME TO LEARN THAT FOR YOURSELF ..."

TO WAIT ...?
GUY-SAN SAID ...

YOU WILL HAVE TO CONFRONT THE SECRETS SURROUNDING YOURSELF AND ARLEQUIN. UNTIL THEN, HOWEVER...
AND WHEN THAT PORTENT COMES, WHETHER YOU WILL OR NO...


A PORTENT, HUH...?
YES. AND SO, YOUNG MASTER, SOME FORM OF SIGN WILL SURELY COME FOR YOU AS WELL.
AND UNTIL IT DOES, LET US WAIT.

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MOR-NIN'.
MM-HUH.
GOOD MOR-NING!
ONCE IT GETS COLD, LIVIN' OUTTA THESE CARS IS GONNA GET ROUGH!
YEAH, BUT IT'S GONNA BE WINTER SOON, Y'KNOW.

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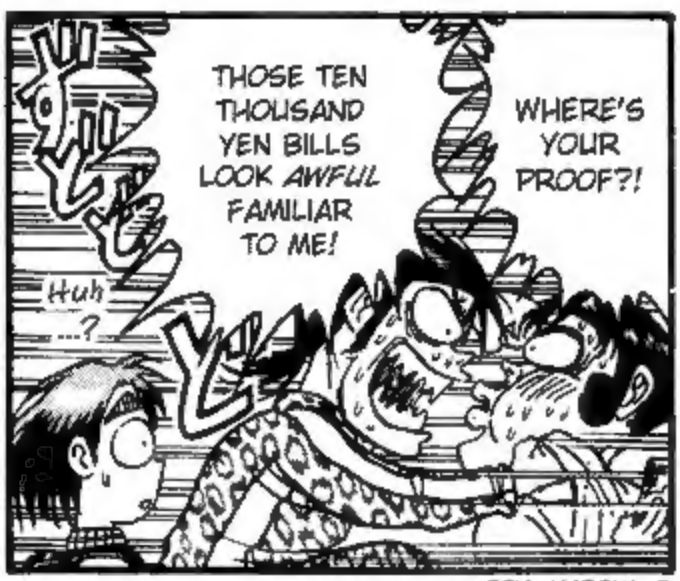
YOU'RE A BIT THICK, LIESE ...
OH, MY GOODNESS! ISN'T THAT A MAILBOX? WAS I MISTAKEN?
Oh, no!
LIESE-SAN, YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING LOVE LETTERS IN SOMEONE'S SHOE LOCKER, HAVEN'T YOU?
I MADE SOME FRIENDS!
HOW'S SCHOOL TREATING YOU, MASARU?
AHHH, GOD, RICH PEOPLE ARE THE WORST!
OH, BARF!
ザ・お宅拝見!!
ちちんぷんぽろぴんぽろ
LET'S TAKE A LITTLE PEEK AT THE HOME OF A MILLIONAIRE!
SIGN: -THE- HOME INSPEC-TION!!
SFX: CHALA CHINPOLO PINPOLO~
6
AND THAT'D BE WHY YA WENT BANKRUPT, WOULDN'T IT?!
OH, I USED TO LIVE JUST LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW! BACK WHEN I WAS RUNNING THE STRAW CIRCUS!
TCH... SO THERE'S STILL PEOPLE LIVIN' IT UP IN THE MIDST OF THIS RECESSION ...!
Th-three mill-...
S-se-ven mill-...
BUT THIS VASE HERE WAS 7 MILLION. WAHAHAHA!
OH, THIS? IT WAS NOTHING MUCH. MAYBE AROUND 3 MILLION YEN.

AH, HEY! NAOTA, YOU DICKWEED, YOU GOT THOSE OUTTA SOMEONE ELSE'S WALLET!
COMP-LETELY CHANGES PERSO-NALITY ...!!

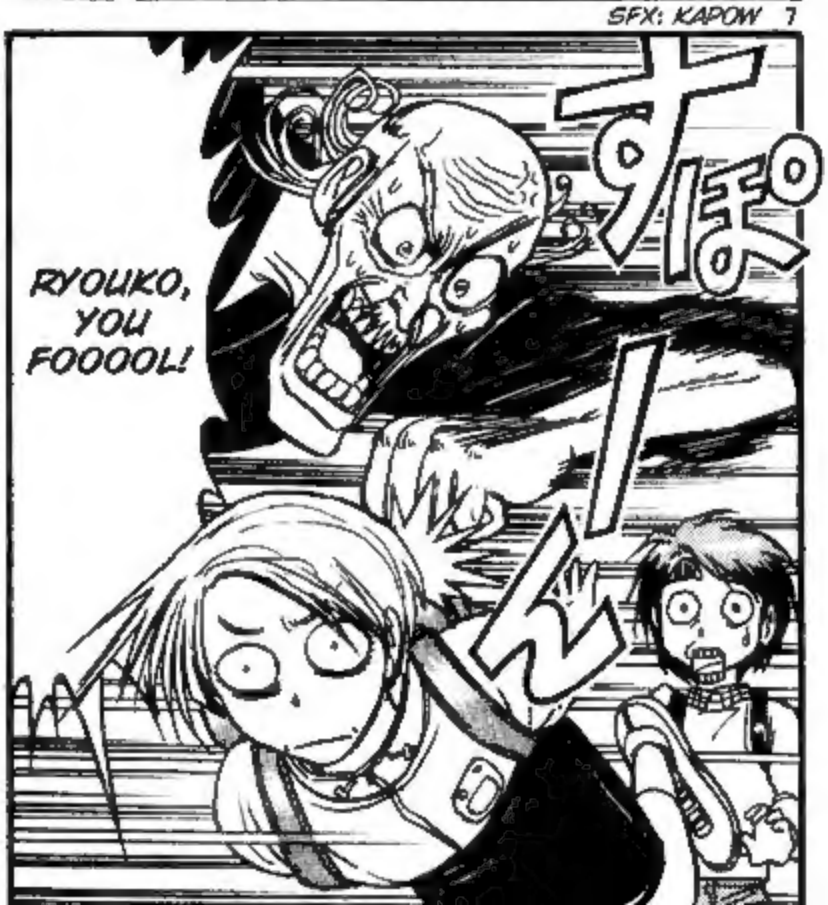
you don't have to be so blunt about it...
THAT'S EXACTLY RIGHT! MONEY IS A MAGICAL SUBSTANCE! IN THE PRESENCE OF MONEY, EVEN A VIRTUOUS, UPSTANDING MAN SUCH AS MYSELF...

GROWNUPS ARE AWFUL. THEY GO CRAZY OVER THE STUFF.
MONEY THIS, MONEY THAT. IT'S ALL SO DUMB.


THOSE TEN THOUSAND YEN BILLS LOOK AWFUL FAMILIAR TO ME!
WHERE'S YOUR PROOF?!
Huh ...?

SFX: KAPOW 7

GRAND-PA!
That hurt!
THE FOOD YOU EAT AND THE CLOTHES YOU WEAR ARE ALL BOUGHT WITH MONEY! YOU COULDN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT MONEY!


RYOUKO, YOU FOOOOL!

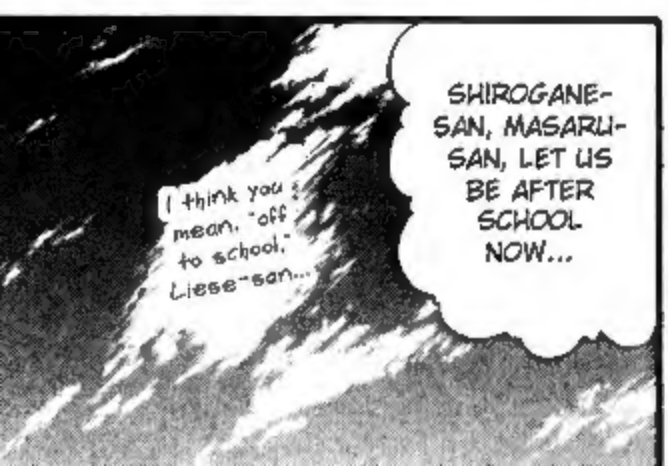
DON'T RUIN YOUR SPOILED LITTLE MOUTH UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT'S LIKE!
WE PERFORMERS LIVE THROUGH TIMES WHEN WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY RICE.
Um...
Uh...
AND THE ONE WHO WORKS HARD TO EARN ALL THAT MONEY IS YOUR FATHER! GET THAT THROUGH YOUR HEAD BEFORE YOU START ACTING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY!
EXCUSE ME!! DON'T YOU HIT ME!!
DON'T GET SMART WITH ME!
HITTING YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER ON THE HEAD IS CALLED ABUSE THESE DAYS!
EXCUSE ME! THIS ISN'T YE OLDEN TIMES ANYMORE, GRANDPA!
We've never been through that either...
BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO, SINCE NAKAMACHI-SAN WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY HELP FROM US.
WE BOTH HAVE OUR OWN MONEY, THOUGH, LIESE.
8
But... it's much more fun eating with the others ...
I'M HAVING DINNER AT A RESTAURANT IN TOWN TONIGHT.
WHAT'S THAT NOW?! DON'T BE SILLY, LIESE. WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT GIVING IT TO NAKAMACHI? SPEND YOUR MONEY ON YOURSELF!
THE SMALL CIRCUS THAT MY MOTHER AND SISTER AND I WERE IN BEFORE WE MOVED TO THE BIG ONE WAS QUITE POOR AS WELL.
I SUPPOSE TRAVELING PERFORMERS NEVER HAVE MUCH MONEY NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO IN THE WORLD.

All right, I get it. I'm sorry.
WE'VE GOT A MEMBER OF THE BOURGEOISIE OVER HERE, FOLKS! AN ENEMY OF THE WORKING CLASS!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!! THIS IS HOW THE RICH THINK!! ALWAYS OUT FOR GOOD OLD NUMBER ONE!!

OH, EXCUSE ME. THIS IS NOTHING YOU NEED TO TROUBLE YOURSELF OVER, MASARU.

YOU ALWAYS WANT TO HAVE MONEY, BUT... CAN'T SAY I'M TOO FOND OF RICH FOLK MYSELF.
BACK WHEN I RAN THE OLD NAKAMACHI CIRCUS UNDER, THE MAIN CAUSE WAS ALL UR RICH PATRONS PULLING OUT THEIR SUPPORT...

R-RIGHT ...
DO NOT LET THIS CONCERN YOU TOO MUCH, YOUNG MASTER.


I think you mean, "off to school," Liese-san...
SHIROGANE-SAN, MASARU-SAN, LET US BE AFTER SCHOOL NOW...

THEY'D ALL REALLY HATE ME...
IF I TOLD THEM THAT... I'M RICH ...

HAS EVERY-ONE PASSED IT ALONG TO THEIR MOTHER OR FATHER?
YOU SHOULD ALL HAVE RECEIVED THE HAND-OUTS FOR VISITING DAY TOMORROW.
キーンコーン
SFX: BING BONG

CUZ I'M DOING SO BAD ON TESTS, Y'KNOW.
MY MOM'S THE ONE WHO'S COMING IN, CUZ SHE WANTS TO TALK TO THE TEACHER.
TOMORROW'S SATURDAY, SO MY DAD'S COMING IN. I TOLD HIM NOT TO CUZ IT'S EMBARRASSING, BUT HE'S DOING IT ANYWAY!
HEY, WHO'S COMING IN FOR YOU?
ざわ
ざわ

SAME AS USUAL... EVEN WHEN MOM WAS ALIVE, SHE WAS ALMOST ALWAYS WORKING, SO VISITING DAY ALWAYS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.

HOW FORTUNATE THAT YOU ARE STILL HERE!
YOUNG MASTER!
Saiga you dope you are so clueless
Kekeke!!
Quit it
I AM DEEPLY INDEBTED TO YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS. THOUGH THIS WILL BE A SHORT ACQUANTANCE, I AM PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
SHIROGANE, WHAT'S GOING ON?!
Um. hey
HUH?
YOUNG MASTER, PLEASE BE MORE CAREFUL!
She said hi to us..!
She's a foreigner! Masaru's big sister is a foreigner!
Sh~
RYOUKO-SAN HAS TRANSFERRED INTO A DIFFERENT CLASS IN YOUR SCHOOL, AND SHE INFORMED ME OF THIS FACT. I ALSO ASKED THE HOMEROOM TEACHER FOR A DETAILED EXPLANATION JUST NOW.
OH ...
TOMORROW IS "VISITING DAY", IS IT NOT?!

...SO...
ARE YOU COMING IN?
BUT YOU REALLY MUST PROPERLY INFORM ME OF SUCH THINGS...
PERHAPS YOU FORGOT TO RELAY TO ME THE PRINTED MATERIAL REGARDING THE EVENT.
I'M SORRY, THOUGH...
...THAT'S NOT IT. .
YOU... DO NOT WANT ME TO COME?
SH RO-GANE, YOU'RE MISUNDER-STANDING SOMETHING HERE!!
NATU-RALLY!
I HAVE EVEN PUR-CHASED A SPECIAL OUTFIT FOR THE OCCASION.
THE REASON I DIDN'T GIVE YOU THE HANDOUT... WASN'T BECAUSE I FORGOT.
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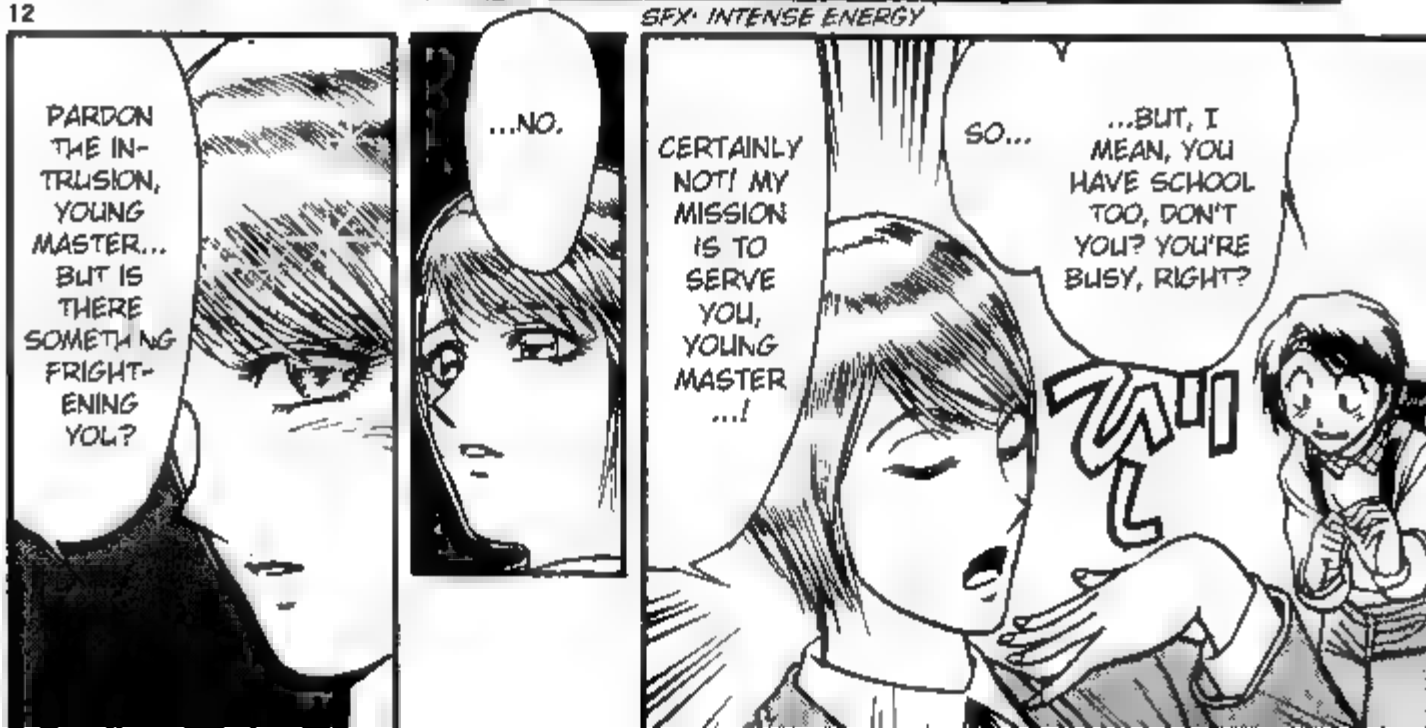
SFX: INTENSE ENERGY


PARDON THE IN-TRUSION, YOUNG MASTER... BUT IS THERE SOMETHING FRIGHT-ENING YOU?
...NO.
CERTAINLY NOT! MY MISSION IS TO SERVE YOU, YOUNG MASTER ...!
SO...
...BUT, I MEAN, YOU HAVE SCHOOL TOO, DON'T YOU? YOU'RE BUSY, RIGHT?
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NO, I...
AS IF YOU ARE MAKING EXCUSES OR APOLOG ZING, IT GIVES ME THE FEELING THAT YOU ARE FRIGHTENED OF SOMETHING.
WHEN-EVER YOU BEHAVE THIS WAY TOWARD ME...
I'M NOT...
WHAT ...?
HE SAID THAT A CIRCUS IS LIKE A FAMILY ...
RING-MASTER NAKAMACHI TOLD ME SOMETHING ABOUT CIRCUSES IN JAPAN.
I NO LONGER CONSIDER THIS A MISSION ...
I WOULD LIKE TO BE YOUR FAMILY.
PLEASE... TELL ME EVERY-THING.
I DO NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT FAMILIES, BUT... A FAMILY IS A PLACE WHERE YOU MAY DISCUSS ANYTHING, WITHOUT FEAR, IS IT NOT?

LET'S GO, SHIROGANE!

WE'RE GOING HOME!
HOME!
YOUNG MASTER ...

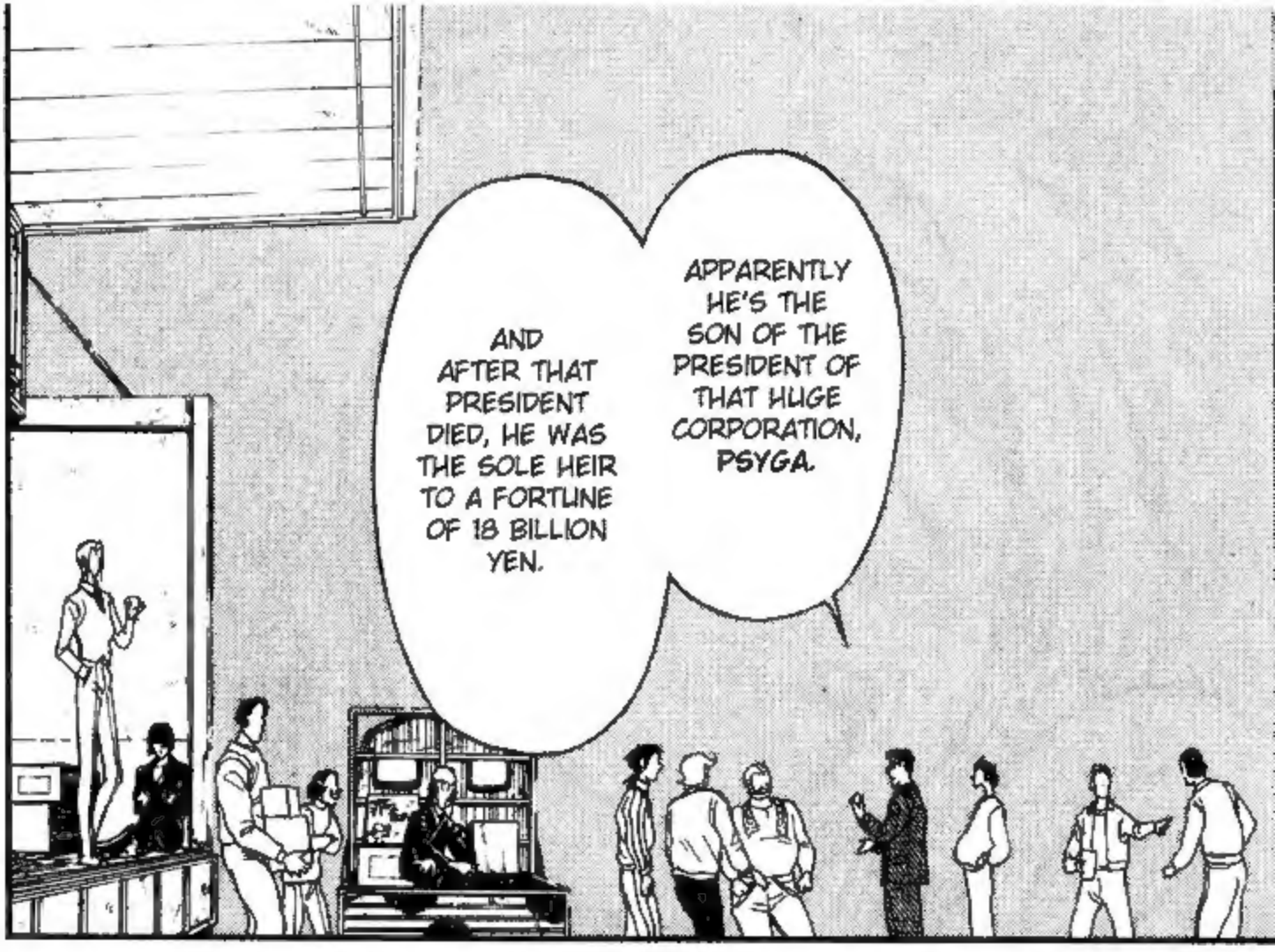
A FAMILY! A HOME!!
I HAVE A FAMILY!
I'M SO HAPPY ...!

AS A BIG, LOUD FAMILY, FOREVER AND EVER...!

TOGETHER WITH EVERYONE ...

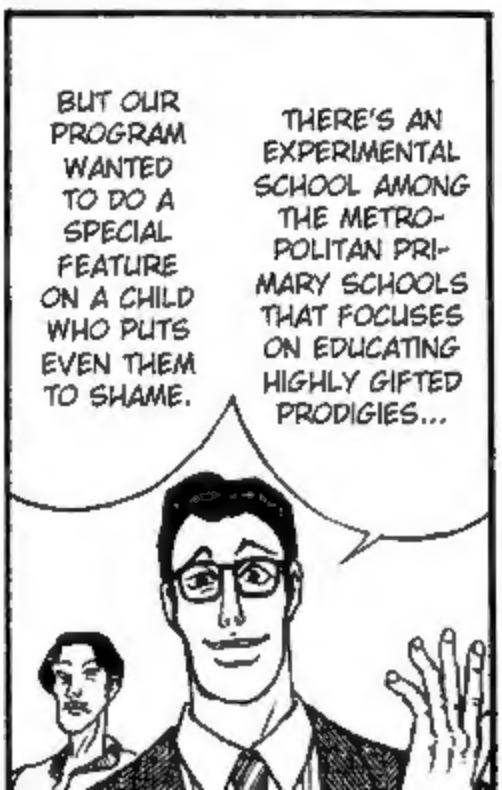
I CAN JUST STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER ...!

SO?
THIS BOY IN YOUR CIRCUS, SAIGA MASARU ...
WELL, OUR STATION IS RUNNING A PROGRAM AT THE MOMENT ENTITLED SUPER KIDS COLLECTION.
OH, YEAH. THE ONE WITH THE SPECIAL FEATURES ABOUT GIFTED KIDS AND THEIR UP-BRINGING.
WHAT'S A TV PROGRAM WANT WITH MASARU?
WHASSAT? TELEVISION PROGRAM?

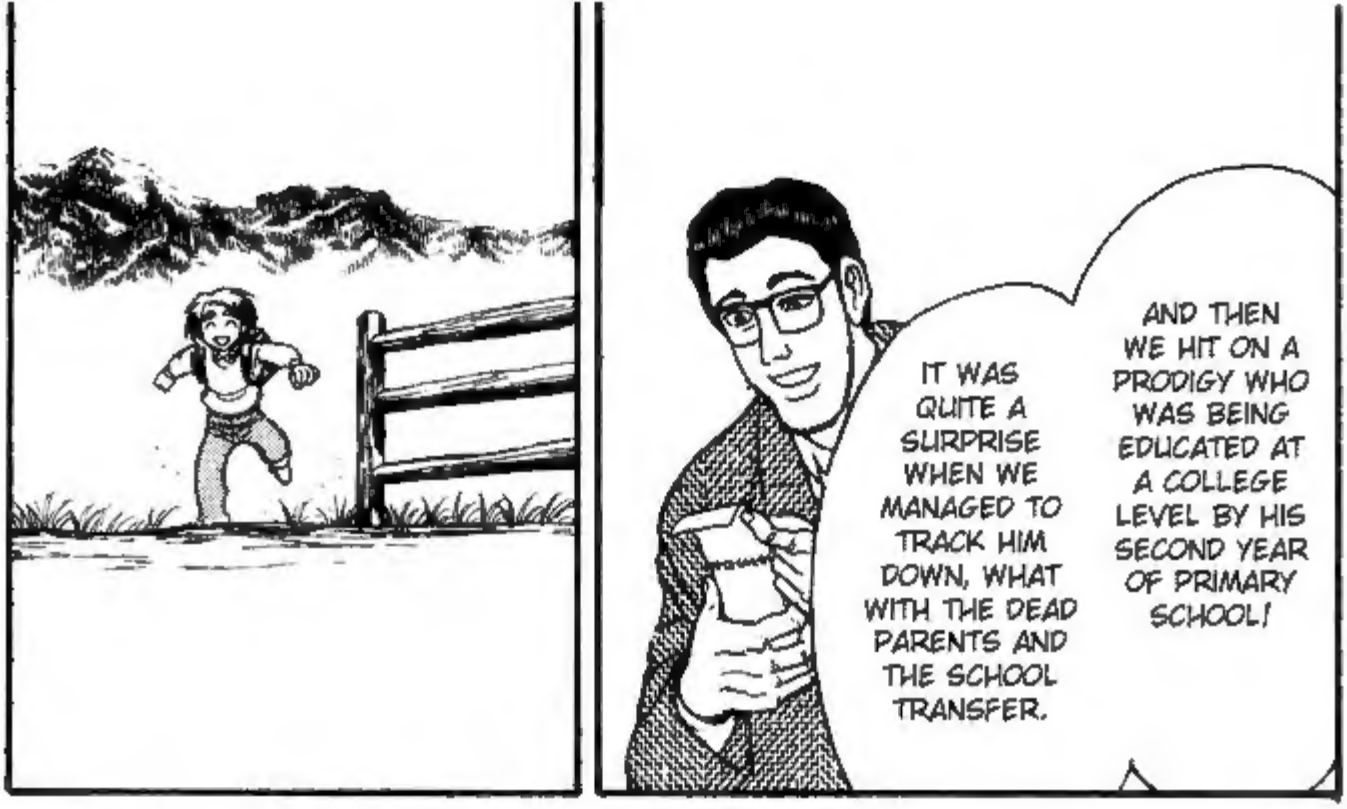

APPARENTLY HE'S THE SON OF THE PRESIDENT OF THAT HUGE CORPORATION, PSYGA.
AND AFTER THAT PRESIDENT DIED, HE WAS THE SOLE HEIR TO A FORTUNE OF 18 BILLION YEN.

M-MASARU ...?
NO WAY ...

NEVER NEEDS TO SHOW UP AT ALL...
THAT "PORTENT" THING...


BUT OUR PROGRAM WANTED TO DO A SPECIAL FEATURE ON A CHILD WHO PUTS EVEN THEM TO SHAME.
THERE'S AN EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL AMONG THE METROPOLITAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS THAT FOCUSES ON EDUCATING HIGHLY GIFTED PRODIGIES...

I CAN GO ON LIKE THIS FOREVER.


IT WAS QUITE A SURPRISE WHEN WE MANAGED TO TRACK HIM DOWN, WHAT WITH THE DEAD PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL TRANSFER.
AND THEN WE HIT ON A PRODIGY WHO WAS BEING EDUCATED AT A COLLEGE LEVEL BY HIS SECOND YEAR OF PRIMARY SCHOOL!

JUST WHAT OUR SHOW IS LOOKING FOR!
WHAT AN EMBAR-RASSMENT OF GOOD LUCK!
AND THE HEIR TO 18 BILLION ON TOP OF THAT!
JUST IMAGINE, A CHILD PRODIGY ...

MUCH SOONER THAN I HAD EXPECTED...
MY "SIGN" CAME...

SFX: WHISPERING

SIGN: YEAR 5, CLASS 2

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五年
THAT FOOL HAD BETTER NOT BE LETTING YESTERDAY WORRY HIM.
HEY, I'VE BEEN PREPPING FOR THIS SINCE LAST WEEK, SINCE HE DIDN'T SAY A WORD ABOUT IT.
WHY DID WE ALL SHOW UP...?!
ざわ
I'M A LITTLE MOVED OVER HERE...
What is with that hair?
BRO, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT INTRODUCED AS "MASARU'S BIG BROTHER"! THAT IS SO UNFAIR!
Shh! Can't you be still?!
I don't even need to be here.

DON'T BE SILLY. AFTER THAT INCIDENT YESTERDAY, WE'VE GOT TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE BOY THAT NOTHING'S CHANGED IN THIS FAMILY.
I AM SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU ALL, RINGMASTER. I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO REALLY NEEDED TO COME...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

NOTES:

 # pg. 18: Parents are also allowed to move around the school on *Sankanbi* (visiting/observation day), so Ubukata being in Masaru's class doesn't mean he's skipping out on Ryouko's.

I'll be visiting family next week, so there may not be a chapter out on the 13th. (This is the exact middle of the series, as well as the 100th chapter I've translated; thank you all for sticking with me.)

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.